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BEYOND THE STARS


The Knicks have more than just Carmelo and Porzingis. 26

Mayor: 'Safest' year for traffic fatalities. 6

Rupert Grint is no longer Ron Weasley. 22

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IRAN SANCTIONS LIFT

1 Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Tuesday welcomed the lifting of international sanctions against Iran, but warned that Tehran should remain wary of its old enemy the United States. State television reported that Khamenei wrote to President Hassan Rouhani to congratulate him on implementing the nuclear deal. **REUTERS**



IMMIGRATION PLAN

2 The U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear President Barack Obama's bid to resurrect his plan to shield more than 4 million illegal immigrants from deportation, a unilateral executive action he took in 2014 to bypass the Republican-led Congress. Obama's action was blocked by lower courts after Texas and 25 other Republican-governed states sued to stop it, contending he exceeded his presidential powers under the U.S. Constitution. The case will be argued before the high court in the coming months, with a ruling due by the end of June. **REUTERS**

GLOBAL OUTAGES

3 Twitter said on Tuesday its social network was suffering ongoing outages on computers and phones and it was working to resolve issues which have been widely reported across Europe, the Middle East, Africa and North America. Both Twitter's web and mobile services began suffering outages concentrated in northern Europe. **REUTERS**



SNOW MAKING

7 Snow guns were making powder on Tuesday in advance of the NYC Parks Winter Jam in Central Park on Saturday.

MAIN PHOTO BY CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY, ALL OTHER PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

ACCUSED EJACULATING DOC

4 A second female patient has accused Dr. David Newman of sexual abuse — groping her breast four months before he allegedly masturbated onto another female patient's face, a police source told the Daily News. Newman surrendered to police Tuesday on charges of ejaculating on a helpless patient incapacitated by a shot of morphine. **METRO**



FACEBOOK

'AFFLUENZA' TEEN

5 An attorney for a teenager who killed four people in the "affluenza" drunken-driving case may have been forced to go to Mexico with his mother after an apparent violation of his probation, a defense attorney said on Tuesday. A hearing on whether to move Ethan Couch's case to adult court lasted only a few minutes without a decision on Tuesday when a judge ruled his parents were not adequately notified about the hearing. A new hearing date was set for Feb. 19. **REUTERS**

DAY CARE ARREST

6 Police have arrested a Brooklyn day care worker on charges that he sexually abused a child as the NYPD searches for more possible victims. Manathis Anderson, 63, an employee of Heavenly Miracle Academy Services in East New York, was taken into custody on Sunday at the facility. **JASON NUCKOLLS**



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BRIEF

Police seek two separate ATM-skimming duos

The NYPD is searching for two seemingly unconnected ATM-skimming duos that have taken thousands in cash in recent months.

Two men attached a skimming device to an ATM in the Green Gourmet Deli at 790 Lexington Avenue, according to an NYPD statement. During the first eight days of December,

the thieves used fabricated ATM cards to remove cash from victims' bank accounts, taking in approximately \$9,000 in total.

In an apparently unrelated coincidence, the NYPD is seeking another duo of ATM-skimming thieves operating in a similar way but in different neighborhoods.

In October, this duo placed a skimming device at a CVS at 420 Fifth Ave. and a Bank of America

at 21 E. 96th Street, police stated, adding that the duo then used the duplicated cards at Queens banks to withdraw cash from victims' accounts, netting nearly \$8,000.

Police were able to capture photos of three of the suspects as they used the cards at other ATMs to withdraw money.

If you have any related information, call Crime Stoppers at 800-577-TIPS (8477) or visit NYPDcrimestoppers.com. METRO



One of the suspects PROVIDED



Pedicab drivers gathered at City Hall. BESS ADLER

Pedicab protest

A proposal announced by Mayor Bill de Blasio would force pedicab riders to work only above 85th Street in Central Park.



ANGY ALTAMIRANO
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

been a pedicab driver for 10 years. "No one talked to us. I just want our voice to be heard, to tell people that we exist."

Klaeboe was part of a large group of drivers who took to the street on Jan. 19, despite the cold temperatures, to rally in front of the City Hall gates and ask for de Blasio to reexamine the deal.

The drivers, girded with signs that read "don't take our jobs" with the mayor's photograph next to it, marched the street and stood in front of the gate chanting "Central Park is not for sale" and "de Blasio save our jobs."

For many of them, the idea of losing their main income has them afraid of not being able to provide for their families. Queens resident Frank Legarrette, who has been riding a pedicab for nine years, has two children whom he said he raised thanks to the money he makes.

"It's not fair because it's just doesn't make any sense," Legarrette said. "I have two kids and I raised my family doing this job. I don't push a horse, I push my own legs. We're not harming anybody."

The City Council must approve the deal before it becomes a reality.

Pedicab drivers battled through the frigid cold Monday afternoon to let the city know — they won't give up on their right to work and make a living.

Over the weekend, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that a deal had been created to decrease the number of horses used in the horse carriage industry, while also establishing a private stable within Central Park.

As part of the plan, starting in June the city will also look to get rid of all pedicabs from the park south of 85th Street — a compromise that has many pedicab drivers' blood boiling and asking why they weren't part of the conversation.

"They used us to make a deal with the horse carriages," said 36-year-old Gregory Klaeboe, who has

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TODAY!

2015 'safest' year on New York City streets

The city announced \$115 million in funds to continue Vision Zero progress in the new year.

ANGY ALTAMIRANO
@MetroNewYork
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New York City saw its safest year in 2015, but officials plan to do much more to continue saving lives.

Mayor Bill de Blasio announced Tuesday morning that since launching in 2013, Vision Zero has led to a 22 percent decrease in traffic fatalities — making 2015 the safest year on

city streets since record-keeping began in 1910.

Along with praising the program, the mayor added that 2016 will see \$115 million in capital investment for plans to continue calming traffic, implementing Safe Routes to Schools, cracking down on dangerous driving and piloting a new plan to test safer

left turns.

"We are serious about saving lives. Vision Zero is working. Today there are children and grandparents who we might have lost, but who are instead coming home, safe and sound, because of these efforts," de Blasio said. "This progress is just the beginning, and Vision Zero is go-

ing to move ahead with even more intensity in the coming year."

Last year there were a total of 231 traffic fatalities, which is 66 less than 2013's total of 297 fatalities before the Vision Zero initiative began. Pedestrian deaths also hit a historic low of 134 in 2015, falling 27 percent during the two years.

According to the mayor's office, based on National Highway Traffic Safety Administration data, U.S. pedestrian fatalities increased by 3 percent in 2014 and are expected to have increased in 2015.

"We at DOT are extremely proud that 2015 was the safest year on record for pedestrians on New York City's streets. However, we recognize that any fatalities mean we have more work to do," Department of Transportation Commissioner Polly Trottenberg said.

For the new year, the city plans to prioritize in setting forth more safety redesigns of major thoroughfares, such as extending the Queens Boulevard improvements and also safety improvements along Astoria Boulevard and traffic calming on Meeker Avenue in Brooklyn.

As part of the \$115 million in new capital investments, close to \$59.4 million will go toward

"This progress is just the beginning, and Vision Zero is going to move ahead with even more intensity in the coming year."

De Blasio

Safe Routes to Schools at 37 schools throughout the city; \$29.6 million for area-wide improvements in Long Island City in Queens; and \$4.1 million in extra funds for the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway project.

A total of \$22 million will also go toward projects in downtown Brooklyn, Manhattan and Far Rockaway.

Other initiatives that are planned for 2016 include a 100-intersection pilot plan to test safer left-turn designs; safer protected bicycle routes; NYPD enforcement targeted to protect seniors; more use of speed enforcement cameras; and earlier education for public school students.

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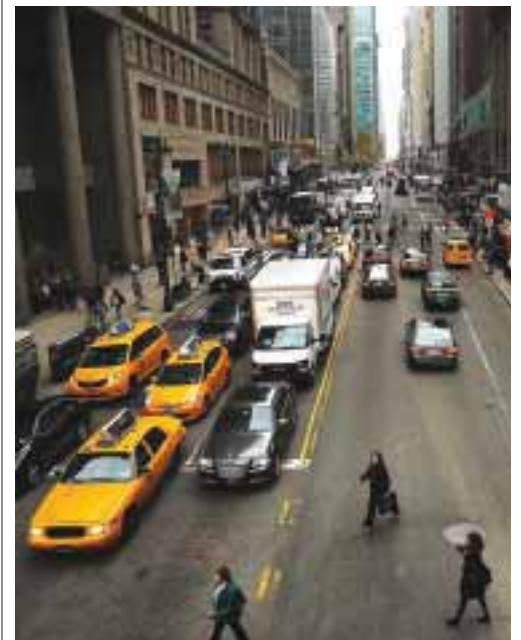


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Bronx hate-crime suspects on video



The suspects NYPD

Police have released surveillance video and photos of the two teens they say attacked a man in the Bronx last week while they yelled, "ISIS, ISIS."

On Jan. 15 at around 5:30 p.m. the 43-year-old victim — later identified as Bangladeshi native Mujibur Rahman — was attacked as he walked his 9-year-old niece home from school at Watson and Pugsley avenues, according to the New York Post.

The two teen suspects then approached Rahman and yelled out, "ISIS, ISIS," and punched him several times on the head before kicking him when he fell to the floor, police said.

Rahman — who was dressed in a shalwar kameez, a traditional South Asian outfit at the time of the attack — suffered bruising to his head and face and was transported to Jacobi Hospital where

he was treated and released.

The suspects are described as black teens — one standing 5-feet-11 — and both last seen wearing a ski mask and dark-colored clothing.

Anyone with information about the incident is encouraged to contact the NYPD's Crime Stoppers hotline at 1-800-577-TIPS. Tipsters can text information via 274637 (CRIMES) and then entering TIP577, too.

The public can also submit tips online at NYPDCrimestoppers.com.

ANGY ALTAMIRANO

BRIEF

Apartment finders con elderly woman out of \$10K in Brooklyn

Scammers who promised to help an elderly woman find an apartment stole thousands of dollars from the unsuspecting victim, cops said.

After the con artists — two women and a man — said they would help her find a home — the 82-year-old was then taken to an HSBC Bank at 700 Park Place in Crown Heights, Brooklyn at about 12 p.m. on Oct. 25., police said.

Once there, she withdrew \$10,000 from her bank account and handed it over to one of the women, who was captured in a photo released by police. The persons of interest then left with the money.

Anyone with information is asked to call Crime Stoppers at (800) 577-TIPS (8477). The public can also submit their tips by logging onto the Crime Stoppers' website at NYPDCrimestoppers.com or by texting their tips to CRIMES (274637), then enter TIP577. All calls are strictly confidential. CRISTABELLE TUMOLA

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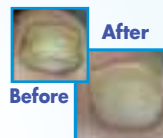
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BRIEF

Are you ready for the Anthony Weiner documentary?

Sundance Select has acquired the rights to "Weiner," the Anthony Weiner documentary which had extensive access to the politician's life, Variety reports.

"Weiner" takes place in 2013, when Weiner (trying to recover from a sexting scandal that forced him to resign from Congress in 2011) attempts a comeback run as mayor of New York, Variety explained. "But his campaign doesn't get far before new allegations derail his message of repentance, and the filmmakers

chronicle this period with considerable access to the politician."

The film is apparently packed with tons of juicy moments, The New York Times reported.

"As the second scandal unfolds in July 2013, Mr. Weiner is shown panicking; misleading the news media; and, at one point, racing through the back halls of a McDonald's to avoid a woman with whom he traded inappropriate texts, whom his campaign code-named "Pineapple." The film, which was directed by Josh Kriegman and Elyse Steinber, is set to premiere at Sundance on Jan. 24. MATT LEE

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Bomb threats target over 30 schools in Northeast, Midwest

The threats, made in a robotic voice, appeared to come from computer-generated phone numbers that could be traced back to a location in Bakersfield, California.

Bomb threats were made against more than two dozen schools in New Jersey on Tuesday, and also against schools in Massachusetts, Delaware and Iowa, forcing evacuations and lockdowns that affected thousands of students.

At least 26 schools in New Jersey received the threats by phone starting at about 8:50 a.m. EST, said Bergen County Sheriff Michael Saudino,

adding that the schools were all subsequently given the all clear.

"When we catch the people doing this, an example is going to be made," Saudino said.

Bergen County prosecutor Gurbir Grewal said his office felt confident it would help catch the culprits.

The threats, which may have been automated because they were so similar, were received by high schools in Teaneck, Garfield, Tenafly, Clifton, Fair Lawn, Leonia, Bergenfield, Englewood and Hackensack, police said.

In addition to the bomb threats, at least one school was threatened with being targeted for a mass shooting, police said.

In Massachusetts, Ar-



Law enforcement officials investigate a bomb threat at Arlington High School in Eastern Massachusetts early Tuesday morning. NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

lington High School just outside Boston was evacuated and students were dismissed for the day early Tuesday after officials reported a threat of

a possible attack using bombs and guns, local police said.

Police said on Twitter they did not regard the attack as credible but

"There are digital fingerprints and we will follow up on each and every lead."

Grewal

the evacuation was carried out as a precaution. Arlington police said they later determined the threat to be "unfounded."

Nine Boston-area schools were the targets of similar threats on Friday.

Delaware State Police said they were also investigating threats made by phone call in

a robotic or computer generated-style voice to at least three schools.

The threats made at about 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday resulted in elementary schools in Millsboro, Middletown and a high school in Greenwood being evacuated, police said in a statement. Police did not release information about the nature of the threats.

Iowa City West High School, in Iowa City, also received a phoned-in bomb threat Tuesday, according to local media. The call was received about 8:40 a.m. and forced students and faculty to be transported to an off-site location. Neither the school district nor city police could immediately confirm the reports. REUTERS

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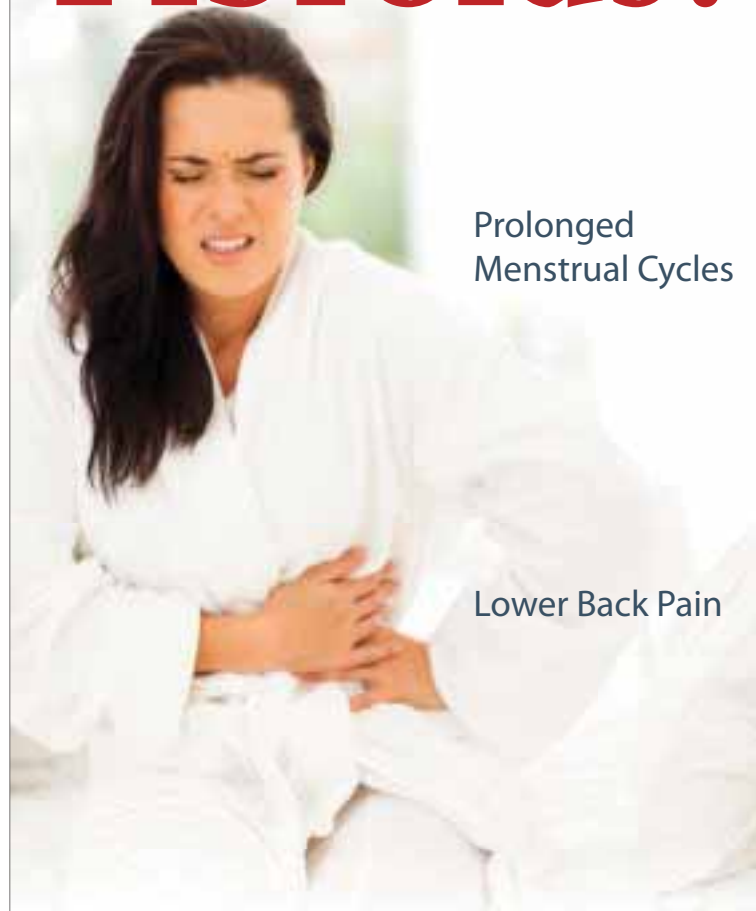
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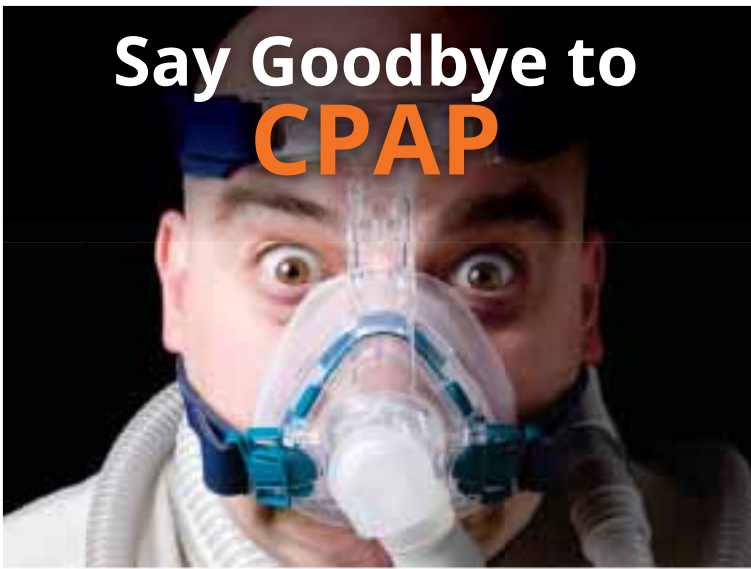
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Family of ex-FBI agent missing in Iran demands answers

Levinson, who disappeared while visiting Iran's Kish Island in 2007, was not among the five American prisoners released by the Iranian government.



Robert Levinson LEVINSON FAMILY HANDOUT

The family of former FBI agent Robert Levinson, who went missing in Iran eight years ago, said on Tuesday it was "desperate for answers" on his whereabouts and expressed frustration at the information it had received from the Obama administration.

His family said in a statement over the weekend that they were "devastated," adding: "We are happy for the other fami-

lies. But once again, Bob Levinson has been left behind."

In a speech on Sunday celebrating the release of the Americans, Obama said the U.S. government would "not rest" until Levinson was found. Secretary of State John Kerry said in a Twitter post that Iran had agreed to deeper coordination to locate Levinson.

Levinson's son, Dan,

told CNN on Tuesday the family "can only hope that they [U.S. officials] are really doing everything they can."

U.S. officials believe that Levinson, who suffered from diabetes, died in captivity after meeting with an American-born Islamic militant on Kish Island. Iranian officials have repeatedly denied knowledge of his disappearance or whereabouts. **REUTERS**

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Main Lobby

Friday, February 5

3 – 4:30 pm

Mount Sinai Queens

Church of the Redeemer
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Father of victim rejects plea deal in NY church beating that killed son

A man accused of taking part in a mass church beating that killed one of his sons and injured another in upstate New York rejected a plea deal on Tuesday that would have sent him to prison for at least 18 years.

Bruce Leonard, 65, appeared in the Oneida County Courthouse in an orange prison jumpsuit and wrist and ankle shackles to turn down the plea agreement involving charges of murder, gang assault and kidnapping in the Oct. 11, 2015, attack at the Word of Life Church in Chadwicks, a small town about 100 miles west of Albany.

Leonard is accused of joining his wife and seven other church members in the beating death of his son Lucas Leonard, 19.



Bruce Leonard OBSERVER DISPATCH POOL

Another son, Christopher Leonard, 17, survived the attack but was hospitalized for blunt-force injuries suffered during a so-called counseling session that lasted more than 10 hours.

Their mother, Deborah Leonard, 59, pleaded guilty last month to first- and second-degree assault charges in exchange for her testimony against

her husband and the seven others — including church pastor Tiffanie Irwin — in the fatal attack.

During testimony last October at a hearing, Christopher Leonard described his father attacking him and Lucas with his fists as well as with a black extension cord used as a whip. Christopher said he and his brother were assaulted because Lucas intended to leave the church.

The other defendants all rejected the same plea deal as Bruce Leonard. They include pastor Irwin, 29; her mother, Traci Irwin, 49; her brothers Joseph Irwin, 26, and Daniel Irwin, 24; Linda Morey, 54; her son David Morey, 26; and Sarah Ferguson, 33, a half-sister of the victims. REUTERS

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THOUSANDS of knee arthritis sufferers flock for this advanced medical treatment - How they relieve pain while you suffer

Knee Arthritis Pain: The Untold Story

Why patients come from all over the country for this knee arthritis pain treatment and why waiting drastically decreases your chance to live a pain free life again

OsteoRelief Institute is a medical clinic with multiple locations in New York City that has treated thousands of knee arthritis patients. Here is what every knee arthritis sufferer should know about the best treatments and options available today. And why waiting drastically decreases your chances to live a pain free life again.

The information you are about to read can possibly save you from years and years of agonizing knee pain. It might even keep you from getting total knee replacement surgery.

Please pay careful attention. What you are about to read is a cutting-edge medical treatment... but it is NOT what it appears to be at first glance. In fact, I'm going to have to ask for a bit of patience from you if you have already **unsuccessfully** tried any (or many) other knee arthritis pain treatments.

You see, many knee arthritis sufferers had already tried the treatment we are going to talk about and did not get the results they wanted. But I assure you there is something VERY DIFFERENT about the technology and the way we do this treatment that makes it much different.

And often gets results when many others have failed. **This is why patients come from all over the tri-state area**

Pharmaceutical companies (with the help of scientists) can now make synovial fluid-like compounds that... during viscosupplementation treatments... doctors precisely inject directly into the knee joint. This helps replace the lubricating fluid to the knee joint - allowing it to move more freely and smoothly and often decreasing or even eliminating the pain.

What Results Can Be Expected? Like all medical treatments, the results vary and can not be predicted. In fact, it is impossible to predict results and there are no statistics proving what the "average" patients can expect. Everyone is individual and gets individual results - so we never tell anyone to expect the same results as any of our other patients. **But to be 100% clear -** many knee arthritis sufferers get dramatic results. It is not uncommon for patients to either postpone knee replacement surgery for years... or even permanently cancel it.

What Are Treatments Like? Treatments are simple, fast and virtually painless. The total time of the procedure itself is only 10 minutes and most say it is like getting a flu shot. You walk out of the clinic just minutes after your procedure.

But There Is A BIG Problem The key is the treatment must be EXTREMELY PRECISE. If the injection is slightly off, the medication will not get into the knee joint and the treatment will

"I cannot ask for better results"



Dr. Stanley Weiner, M.D. - Surgeon

I had surgery scheduled last year. Three months before I made an appointment with OsteoRelief Institute. I was amazed at the ease with which I was evaluated and the treatment schedule implemented. **The results I had at OsteoRelief Institute were outstanding. I cannot ask for better results.** After the treatment I was able to go back to work with no discomfort at all. They use a digital monitor to locate the space that they use the treatment for and it's... it's like exact science.

Dr. Stanley Weiner

"I don't have any pain any more"



After I had the treatments... the last time... I just

"Hey this feels terrific"



I was diagnosed bone on bone about 2 years ago I went to see an Orthopedic Surgeon and he said my knees were shot and I need to get them replaced. OsteoRelief said after looking at x-rays they could help. **That procedure is so basic so simple so quick in 15 minutes you are in and out.** I did both legs at once which is great. When I got up out of the chair I stood up and I said, **"Hey this feels terrific."**

"I feel like a new woman - It's amazing."



and beyond to have their knee arthritis pain treated here.

Would You Like Instant Proof?

If you want instant proof - you can just look at all the actual patient testimonials we have included. These patients were once skeptical just like you... and are now either pain free... or eliminated quite a bit of their pain.

Here's the most important thing:

Many said they saw this information SEVERAL times before finally deciding to take action and give us a call. As you can see - they are happy they did. Once crippled with knee pain, they are playing golf again, dancing again, riding bikes again and going for long walks again.

But we do get one very common complaint.

And it is: "I wish I started this treatment much sooner." *Let's be very clear about this.*

Time is the most precious thing. There is no way to slow it down - or get any back once it is gone. All the more reason for you to not suffer even one more second than you have to. Missing life suffering in pain is a tragedy. It's time for you to get rid of your knee pain and start living the life you want and deserve.

And please understand this:

One of the keys to success in medicine is early diagnosis and treatment. Like many diseases, arthritis only gets worse over time. The longer you wait - the more damage to your knee and the more pain you will be in. If you wait too long, the entire knee joint will be degenerated and your ONLY option will be total knee replacement.

If you are suffering with

knee arthritis pain, here is why you should act RIGHT NOW:

When you have arthritis, you suffer a decrease in the lubricating fluids in your knee. In other words, your knee joints basically "dries up." The lubricating fluid that decreases is called "synovial fluid."

not work.

That's why the experts at OsteoRelief Institute use advanced digital imaging so they can see the injection going directly into the knee joint during the treatment.

Research shows that doctors performing joint injections without imaging miss the joint as much as 30% of the time.

If you had

viscosupplementation without this special digital imaging without good results - this may be why.

That's why OsteoRelief Institute even takes it one step further. They do not just use one form of advanced imaging during treatment - they use two in their "double confirmation" process.

This is to ensure patients get the best possible results.

Another Important Factor

Viscosupplementation medications also come in several different brands and chemical make-ups.

Just like all medications, some people respond better to some than others. While many doctors only use one brand, the experts at OsteoRelief Institute use several and great effort is taken to figure out what the best one for YOU is.

What To Do Next If You Are In Pain:

Special Your Invitation

OsteoRelief Institute offers a limited number of complimentary knee arthritis treatment screenings every month. These screenings are a way for knee arthritis sufferers to get some of their questions answered and see if they are a candidate for one of the cutting-edge treatments offered at OsteoRelief Institute. For a complimentary screening, just call 800-227-KNEE. The screenings fill up fast every month. This screening is no cost and there is no further obligation. Call 800-227-KNEE to schedule your screening. Many of the treatments offered at OsteoRelief Institute are covered by many insurance plans and Medicare. Call 800-227-5633 to schedule your screening.

After I had the treatments... the last time... I just go right to the golf course. I'm able to keep up with these guys who walk - I'm right next to them! My guys on the golf course would say Hey, look at this he doesn't need us to put the ball up any more.

When I'm playing on the course I don't have any pain any more I don't have any aches and pain. I'm out there playing!

"I feel like a new woman"



I came to the clinic because I was not sleeping at night. My leg was Pounding. There were times when I sat too long the knee would tighten up. I would get in pain and I would be miserable and I would have it for the whole night. **After the treatment I goof around with my grandchildren. I feel like a new woman.** It's great. I know I don't have to sit on the couch and be in pain and I can just pick up and get dressed and go out. It was so gentle.



It got to the point where I couldn't stand up for a period of time and I knew something had to be done about it. You walk into the doctors office - he puts your leg in a machine - he shows you where he is going to do the procedure and before you know it... it's done and you're outta there. Now I'm able to take out my bicycle a couple of the guys and myself we took a couple of rides out in the woods and we had a good time and **I couldn't do that for years and now I'm able to do it again.**



The pain was excruciating like 24/7. Nothing I took over-the-counter would work so I knew it was something more serious. When I saw that my condition was not getting any better, I decided to do something about it and I immediately made an appointment - I went and started treatment. **The feeling of getting back to my dancing and my mobility is indescribable. I feel like a new woman - It's amazing.**

"I am ecstatic with the results of this procedure"



One day, as I was running, my knee got tighter and tighter. I had to stop and just walk home. They x-rayed me and said I was a candidate for it. You sit there for about 2-3 minutes and then you are up and walking out the door. I am ecstatic with the results of this procedure because I could not run just weeks before. I ran my race without any issues. I felt good - it just opened a door that was closing.

"I Can Finally Live My Life"



Prior the the relief center I was taking (9:30) and I was becoming addicted to it and it was damaging my health. Since the treatment, I've been able to be less dependent on them. I don't feel helpless anymore. **Since going through the procedure I can finally live. I can finally live my life.**

Children on Syrian refugee route could freeze to death

Thousands of refugee children traveling along the migration route through Turkey and southeastern Europe are at risk from a sustained spell of freezing weather in the next two weeks, the United Nations and aid agencies said on Tuesday.

The U.N. weather agency said it forecast below-normal temperatures and heavy snowfall in the next two weeks in the eastern Balkan peninsula, Turkey, the eastern Mediterranean and Syria, Lebanon, Israel and Jordan.

"Many children on the move do not have adequate clothing or access to the right nutrition," said Christophe Boulierac, spokesman for the U.N. children's agency UNICEF.

Asked if children could freeze to death, he told a news briefing: "The risk is clearly very, very high."

Children were coming ashore on the Greek



A Syrian child, who fled with her family from attacks of Islamic State, is seen in front of a hovel living in harsh conditions in the cold winter in the suburbs of Turkey's capital, Ankara. GETTY IMAGES

island of Lesbos wearing only T-shirts and soaking wet after traveling on unseaworthy rubber dinghies, the charity Save the Children said in a statement.

"Aid workers at the border reception center in Presevo say there is six inches of snow on the ground and children are arriving with blue lips, distressed and shaking from the cold," it said.

It said temperatures were forecast to drop to -20 degrees Celsius (-4°F)

in Presevo in Serbia and -13 degrees (9°F) on the Greek border with Macedonia.

Last year children accounted for a quarter of the one million migrants and refugees arriving across the Mediterranean in Europe, Boulierac said. The UN refugee agency UNHCR said a daily average of 1,708 people had arrived in Greece so far in January, just under half the December daily average of 3,508.

REUTERS

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- ☒ Slower growth of your toenails
- ☒ Shiny Skin on your legs
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- ☒ Erectile dysfunction in men

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British spy agency hailed as top gay-friendly employer

Just over 25 years since Britain's powerful domestic spy agency dropped a ban on hiring gays and lesbians, MI5 was hailed Tuesday as the country's most gay-friendly employer.

MI5 was ranked first of more than 400 organizations by rights group Stonewall in a 2016 Workplace Equality Index for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender employees. Just six years ago, MI5 was ranked at 134th in the index.

"People can only give the best they can give when they feel supported, valued and treated with respect by their colleagues," Andrew Parker, the director general of MI5, told the charity.

MI5, established in 1909 to counter German espionage ahead of World War I, fought the Soviet-era KGB during the Cold War and now



The UK's Security Services MI5 and MI6 Headquarters building, Vauxhall, London. GETTY IMAGES

spends about two thirds of its money on international counter terrorism, predominantly linked to Syria.

Spies in MI5 and other services such as MI6 and GCHQ have for years been trying to ditch the perception that they are male-dominated bastions of reaction.

The accolade from

Stonewall, complete with a rare public comment from one of Britain's most powerful spy chiefs, will help MI5 pitch itself as a modern spy service.

Of the 4,000 people employed by MI5, 41 percent are women and just over half are younger than 40, according to the spy service. REUTERS



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Madonna fears for her life because of Sean Penn's El Chapo stunt



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

While Sean Penn has been calmly patting himself on the back for both helping to bring Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman to justice and single-handedly saving journalism, his ex-wife — and current squeeze — Madonna has not been doing so well. Sources tell Radar Online that Madonna, who is apparently dating Penn again, fears for her life now that a connection has been drawn between the actor's October interview with the drug lord and his later capture.

Because obviously. "While tough-talking Sean told her she's safe, Madonna nonetheless is living in fear," a source says. "She is furious with Sean for putting her in danger." See, I knew dating Sean Penn was a bad idea.

the word

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Here's Mel Gibson stumbling around a Whole Foods



While he seemed to be fine and dandy at the Golden Globes earlier this month — and up for making fun of himself — Mel Gibson has been showing some troubling signs of his past behavior making a comeback.

Take, for instance, this recent trip to the gro-

cery store. I kind of don't even want to get too into the analysis of it and just give you the play-by-play from the other shoppers: "Mel went into the Whole Foods in Thousand Oaks and was stumbling around. He came in with a big white fork in his mouth and he seemed unsteady. He tripped a couple of times and he was telling people he wasn't really Mel Gibson," a source tells Radar Online. "He was extremely rude to people. He wasn't behaving politely at all and seemed unsteady. Mel went to the checkout line and tried to pay with his credit card but had to insert in three different ways for it to work. He looked like he could fall down at any moment." Fun times, Mr. Gibson. Fun times.

Maisie Williams won't tell you Jon Snow's fate

Jon Snow's apparent death at the end of last season of "Game of Thrones" was a huge shock, and his fate is one of the big mysteries of the new season, due in April. So why do people keep asking cast members whether he's alive or dead? Do they actually expect an answer? Have they never seen a TV show before? The folks at The Upcoming apparently haven't, since they tried to get something out of Maisie Williams about it at the U.K. Critics Circle Awards. "I feel so mean because I speak to people and they're all like, 'Jon Snow, is he back?'" she says. "It's a great twist, but I can't say he's going to be alive." I'm sorry people keep asking.



@rickygervais

If I were @chrisrock, I wouldn't be considering boycotting the Oscars. I'd be thinking "this s— is live. I can do some serious damage."



@chelseahandler

I'm trying my best to take this election year seriously.



@JuddApatow

I don't think I can handle the loss of any more of my rock n roll heroes. I am still not over the loss of Keith Moon and Terry Kath.



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Hack the bar date

Even if you've tried it before, we've got the tips that really work.



EVA KIS
@thisiskis
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New year, new you, new love. Sounds great, but sometimes the only thing harder than putting yourself out there is deciding where to go. Allow us to present a radical idea: the bar.

"The after-work bar scene is great because everybody wants to unwind. They want to talk to someone, it's just so easy," says Susan Baxter, whose HireAWingWoman.com service pairs men and women with a "professional plus-one" to meet new people.

A bar gets you in the meeting-people mindset, more so than going to an event and hoping that something happens.

Ironically, they also offer the opportunity for instant connection in a way online dating doesn't. "Until you meet someone in person, you don't know what kind of chemistry you have," Baxter points out.

Convinced? Give bars another try with these expert tips.

Do your research

"Make friends with the bartender," Baxter advises. "Go maybe once or a couple times a week — the bartender gets to see who the characters are, they may know who's single, who the alcoholics are. Who knows? They could even set you up."



Bars can be a great place to meet someone — with the right approach. ISTOCK

Go where the fun is

Look for bars with games like darts or pool tables for a low-stress way to chat up someone. At more casual bars, "people tend to be a little bit more open and talkative to other people than the people they came with," Baxter says. She also likes breweries and Mexican restaurants, which by the nature of their fun drinks and upbeat music attract happy people.

Don't get too fancy

"You should wear what flatters you," Baxter says. "There are so many rules out there that say, 'Wear red, it attracts men.' I look like crap in red!" She describes the ideal look as "chameleon" — like you can have fun in different scenarios.

Stand down, squad

You're way more approachable if you're either by yourself or with one other person, says Baxter. More people mean more obstacles,

Need some help?

If you're looking for romance, going out with your bestie might not be how you'll find it. Baxter's wingwomen work with men and women to make that first connection a little bit smoother by honing clients' technique, making introductions or just being a supportive plus-one. "It's intimidating to go up to that hot person at the bar," Baxter says. "Basically, a wingwoman will provide the confidence."

and someone may not approach to avoid interrupting your event.

Pick the right bar

If going to a bar alone sounds intimidating, find one where anyone would be happy to talk to you. "Try hotel bars," says Baxter. "It's such a good place to practice breaking the ice." The traveler gets your insider info, you get to talk about something other than your job or commute. Win-win!

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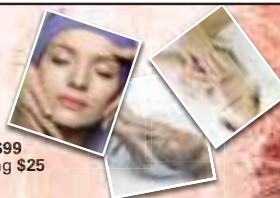
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Life after Ron Weasley

Rupert Grint is in a crazy film, "Moonwalkers," that's nothing like "Harry Potter."



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GETTY IMAGES

Rupert Grint could spend the rest of his life doing nothing. After all, the actor, now 27, devoted 13 years to playing Ron Weasley, the most flabbergasted of the "Harry Potter" films' central trio. Instead, like his co-stars Daniel Radcliffe and Emma Watson, he's kept up the acting, taking roles that are very un-Hogwarts. He's done dramas ("Cherrybomb") and a war film ("Into the White"), played punk reprobate Cheetah Chrome in "CBGB" and performed Off-Broadway in Terrence McNally's "It's Only a Play."

His new film "Moonwalkers" is also very much outside the Potter wheelhouse. Grint plays Jonny, a London rock manager in 1969 who stumbles into a plan to create a fake film of the Apollo 11 moon landing, in case the real mission is a bust. This ruse winds up involving him with orgy-loving hippies, vengeful East End gangsters and a PTSD-ridden CIA heavy played by Hellboy himself, Ron Perlman.

"It's something



Rupert Grint, with Robert Sheehan, plays a lowly rock manager who finds himself helping to fake the Apollo 11 moon landing in "Moonwalkers." **ALCHEMY**

that doesn't take itself too seriously, which is a rare thing," he says of the sometimes hyperviolent comedy. "I wasn't sure how it would turn out. It was a ridiculous hour-and-a-half. It does kind of slap you around in the face."

Before the "Moonwalkers" script made it to him, Grint had already been a nut for conspiracy theories, or at least reading about them. "One of my favorites is that the moon is hollow," he tells us. "NASA sent this missile up there to hit the face of the moon. The signals came back described it as ringing like a bell — like it was a hollow structure. I don't know if it's real. But it made

me think."

What caused him to become an avid reader of wacky theories? "I think it was probably Princess Diana," he says, alluding to the claims made by some that her death was not an accident. A lot of these catch his fancy, some loonier than others. "There's one about a reptilian race that controls all the world's power. Every decision is made by this reptilian race. The queen is one of them. The prime minister, all the presidents — they're all reptiles."

"The people who say this are so unwavering, and you think, just a little bit, maybe they've got a point. It's just quite fun reading."

Grint points out that

"Moonwalkers" is out-there, even when you're not comparing it to the "Potter" films. But Grint doesn't take roles just to shock his massive fanbase, who continues, nearly five years after the final installment, to swirl around him. (He's famous for being gracious to those who come up to him on the street.)

"There just haven't been that many wizard roles out

there," he jokes. "It's nice to do something different and a bit edgy. I find that a bit exciting. I like the idea of exciting people."

He says he'd like to do something really different from Ron Weasley, though. "Something dark would be fun. Someone a bit evil. I'd enjoy that, I think," Grint says. "I think being a ginger takes away a bit of my edge."

making "Moonwalkers" made him wonder if theories that it was staged might have a bit of a point, maybe. "The moon landing was surprisingly easy to re-

make," he recalls. "It's really easy to make the moon. It looks like a set. It kind of makes you think it would have been quite easy to do it, to fake it."

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10 YEARS



One of Alan Rickman's most famous was Professor Severus Snape in the "Harry Potter" movies. Rickman died last week at age 69. WARNER BROS. PICTURES

What Alan Rickman knew about Snape

It's been a rough month for celebrity losses. For "Harry Potter" fans (and movie fans in general), the passing of Alan Rickman from cancer at the age of 69 was particularly difficult. His career as an actor was incredible, from stage to screen, from "Die Hard" to the underrated ghostly drama-romance "Truly Madly Deeply," and I've loved everything he's done.

But as a geek and a lover of all things Harry, I'll always think of him first as Professor Snape.

I think there is something that is undeniably compelling about characters that are hated or feared revealing something that makes them sympathetic. I think that's why we love them so much. We're waiting for the villain to show us their soft underbelly.

Snape had that. He loved Harry's mother Lily. It affected everything he did. It was why he protected Harry. It's why he did what he did for Dumbledore. When Snape produces his Patronus charm, and it's the

same as Lily's, Dumbledore says, "After all this time?" Snape replies, "Always."

Rickman has revealed in the past that "Harry Potter" author J.K. Rowling, to persuade him to take the job, gave him information about the role that no one else had. This week, she revealed what exactly she told him. She tweeted, "I told Alan what lies behind the word 'always.'" That single word contains all the passion and goodness that Snape had to conceal until the last second, at which point one of the series' great villains turned into a truly tragic figure.

There was a quote attributed to Rickman in which he says he'll be reading "Harry Potter" when he's 80 in his rocking chair, and that when his family asks, "After all this time?" he'll reply, "Always." Though there is no evidence he actually said that, I think most of us will be doing that ourselves.

Knowing that Rickman knew Snape was in love with

JENNA BUSCH

Geek Girl in Hollywood

Jenna Busch takes on the way pop culture snubs its female fans. For more columns, visit Metro.us/jenna-busch as well as her site, [Legion of Leia](http://LegionofLeia.com) (LegionofLeia.com)



Lily, and that it informed every bit of his performance, is the perfect reason to go back and watch the "Harry Potter" films again.
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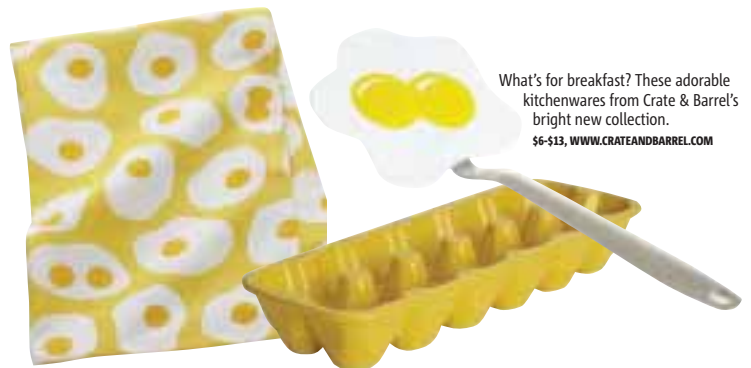
Welcome to winter, friends. Although the season "officially" kicked off a month ago, this is when it starts to get real: You realize the holidays are over and there's a good three months until you'll be spending much time outside. Our cabin fever strategy? Brighten up your igloo and invite the sunshine in with these cheery accents. **MONICA WEYMOUTH**



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Brooklyn sees second-highest average sales prices on record

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THE REAL DEAL

Brooklyn saw the second highest average sales prices on record in the fourth quarter of 2015, at \$808,121, down from \$856,839 in the previous quarter, according to Douglas Elliman's latest quarterly sales report. Meanwhile, inventory dropped 6.5 percent year-over-year.

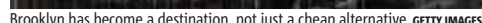
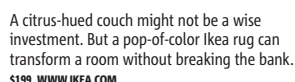
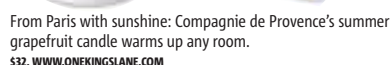
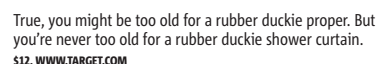
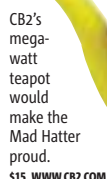
"Inventory crunch is still such a predominant factor," said Sarah Burke, senior manager of Brook-

lyn sales at Elliman. "By 2017, there's going to be a little more inventory to accommodate the demand." The median sales price rose 11.1 percent year-over-year to \$650,000.

"What's fueling this is a robust economy, job growth and Brooklyn's own success in rebranding itself over the last five years as a destination, not just a less expensive alternative to Manhattan," said Jonathan Miller, president of Miller Samuel and author of the Elliman report. "What we've been seeing is a tremendous amount of sale activity." Frank Percesepe, regional senior vice president in

Brooklyn for the Corcoran Group, which also released its fourth quarter report Thursday, said the continued high demand for residential properties in the borough is driving residents to south Brooklyn to find deals. "A long time ago, Brooklyn became a destination," he said.

"And now that's a destination, there's a shortage, and people are going deeper into the borough. Miller said that while Brooklyn's housing stock is "critically low," Queens is merely "low." The average number of days that a property was on the market fell 41.6 percent year-over-



year to 57. The median sales price hit \$470,000, a 9.2 percent year-over-year increase. Listing inventory fell 6.3 percent from the same time last year. On the rental side, there are some market headwinds.

In Manhattan, the vacancy rate hit 2.74 percent, slightly lower than last month's nine-year record high but still a troubling sign of "potential future weakness," Miller said.

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Knicks role players stepping up

If the Knicks want to make the playoffs, they can't solely rely on 'Melo and Porzingis.

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Today's NBA requires at least two star players on a roster just to compete on a nightly basis, but to contend for a title, even that's not enough.

As Shaquille O'Neal likes to say, true contenders not only need their stars to show up each night, but they need "the others" too. Those others are a team's unsung heroes — a supporting cast that's as courageous and effective as the stars they follow.

The Knicks (21-22) are currently on the outside looking in for playoff contention, as they're sitting right behind the Celtics (22-20) for the eighth seed. But with their recent surge of being winners in six of its last 10 games, the Celtics' current slide (4-6 in their last 10) and ascending play from its supporting cast, New York is primed to take the next step in truly being a legitimate playoff con-

tender.

New York's two stars, Carmelo Anthony and rookie Kristaps Porzingis, have been consistently stellar on a nightly basis, but they need help if they're to lead this squad into the playoffs. Help has now seemingly arrived with the recent play of guys like Arron Affalo, Jose Calderon, Derrick Williams, Robin Lopez, rookie Jerian Grant, and Lance Thomas. None of the aforementioned will strike fear in opponents individually, but collectively, they've all raised their games lately to really give the Knicks some balance.

"I think guys are coming along," said head coach Derek Fisher. "Guys are able to finish games out when they're [Anthony or Porzingis] out."

Monday's matinee win over the 76ers was a great showcase for the unsung. Anthony had perhaps the biggest highlight when he knocked down the straightaway 3-pointer with three seconds remaining to send the game into overtime. But it was the others that truly cemented the thrilling double-overtime victory. Affalo led all scorers with 25 points, including clutch shots in both

Knicks notes

- Porzingis has a team-high 16 double-doubles this season.
- The rookie sensation, who may be listed as questionable, also noted he expects to play Wednesday, when the Knicks host the Jazz: "I'm sure I'll be fine," he said. "I expect to be back on Wednesday. I'm young, I recover quick."
- Kevin Seraphin (bruised right rib) and Thomas (sore left knee) are also questionable for Wednesday's game.

regulation and the extra frames. Lopez broke out with a double-double (16 points and 10 rebounds) and two blocks, while Thomas notched 12 points and four rebounds. Every bit of those efforts were needed, especially when Porzingis exited the game with 2:40 remaining in regulation following a foot injury.

The previous time that the Knicks played at the Garden, Jan. 12, a 120-114 win over the Celtics, also featured the supporting



Arron Affalo, right, has emerged as a key contributor for the Knicks this season. GETTY IMAGES

cast picking up the slack following an injury to one of its stars. Anthony left the game with 1:16 remaining in the first half with an ankle injury and the Knicks owning a 12-point lead. And while New York almost let that margin dissolve, it was the reserves that stemmed the tide and

brought home the win.

Fisher has been proud of the way his squad has come together lately, and how the relative unknowns are carrying their weight.

"It's a big confidence boost that proves that we are really a team," said Fisher. "Sometimes guys go down, whether injury

or foul trouble, and you need those guys to step up, make plays, and win the game — and not be afraid of the moment. ... We're having guys lately doing that."

Fisher also highlighted the play of his bigs, namely Lopez and Williams — the latter being a pleasant surprise this season.

NBA power rankings | by James Toscano

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No. 1



Warriors (38-4)

Just when you thought the Warriors might be a little vulnerable, they go into Cleveland and absolutely embarrass the best team in the Eastern Conference. If a message was needed to be sent, it sure was.

No. 2

Spurs (36-6)



Had the Warriors lost to the Cavs, we might be looking at the Spurs in the top spot this week. Nonetheless, San Antonio will continue its under-the-radar, fundamentally sound basketball.

No. 3

Thunder (30-12)



Two wins over the T-Wolves doesn't mean much, but a 19-point win over the Mavs and a 24-point win over the Heat? Yeah, those are big ones. Kevin Durant averaged 26.0 points and 8.3 boards last week.

No. 4

Cavs (28-11)



LeBron James was a career-worst minus-34 against the Warriors, according to Elias. The team was manhandled. That will stick with them for the rest of the season, and that's a good thing.

No. 5

Raptors (26-15)



Just two games for the Raptors last week, but they took care of business in both. DeMar DeRozan and Kyle Lowry are a lethal duo in the backcourt and will both be All-Stars this year. Time to separate from the pack in the East.

No. 6

Clippers (27-14)



The Clips have separated themselves a bit from the middle of the Western Conference pack and now look like more of a contender than a pretender. But, as always with them, can it last?

No. 17

Knicks (21-22)



Crisis averted for the Knicks as Kristaps Porzingis' foot injury that took him out of Monday's game is minor. It took the Knicks two OTs to beat the Sixers, but there was a fun vibe in MSG.

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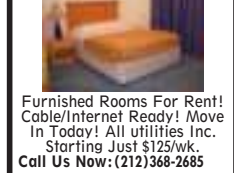
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NOTICE OF FORMATION
of Kingholds and Associates LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secy. of State of New York (SSNY) on 05/28/2015. Office location: New York County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC c/o 225 East 36th Street, Suite 10R New York, NY 10016. Purpose: any lawful activity.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION
that a license, Number 1291848, for Liquor, Wine & Beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Liquor, Wine & Beer at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 185 Atlantic Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11201, for on-premises consumption. Boutros LLC.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that a license, Number 1291945, for Beer, Wine & Liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer, Wine & Liquor at retail under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 14-17 150th St., Whitestone, NY 11357, Queens County, for on-premises consumption. Xpistiva Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that a license, Number 1288406, for Beer, Wine & Liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer, Wine & Liquor at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 123 W. 56th Street, New York, NY 10019, for on-premises consumption. Midtown Manor LLC.

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that a license, Number 1291681, for Beer, Wine & Liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer, Wine & Liquor at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 884 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11238, for on-premises consumption. Fresh Picked Pantry LLC.

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that a license, Number 1291657, for Beer, Wine & Liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer, Wine & Liquor at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 557 Third Ave., New York, NY 10016, for on-premises consumption. NP Nightlife LLC.

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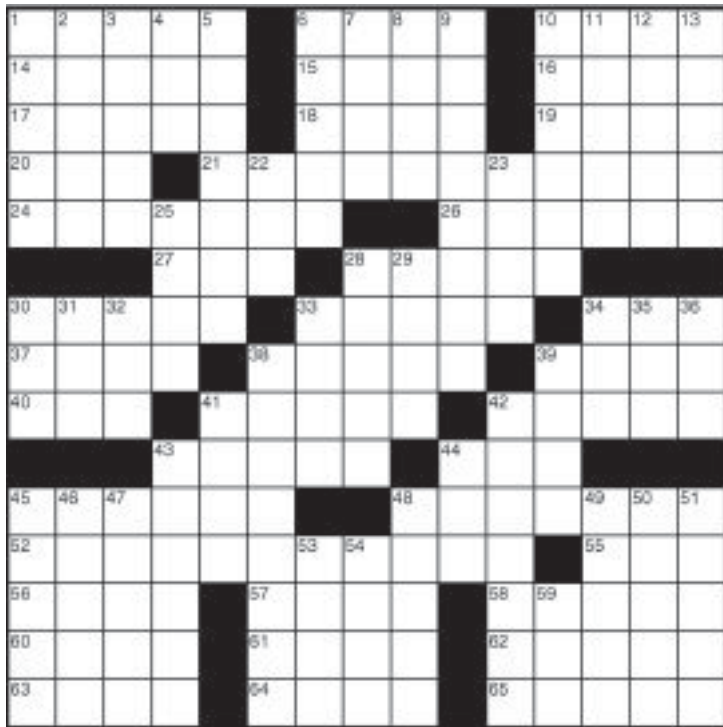
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Across

- 1 Limestone terrain
- 6 Pass the —
- 10 Email nuisance
- 14 Steal the scene
- 15 Et — (and others)
- 16 Haleakala's site
- 17 Farm machine
- 18 Come down hard
- 19 Nudge forward
- 20 It borders Fla.
- 21 Arctic phenomenon (2 wds.)
- 24 Cyborg science
- 26 Quarts, plus
- 27 Summer in Paris
- 28 Abrasive mineral
- 30 Desperado's fear
- 33 Cote murmur
- 34 Rock's — Leppard
- 37 Meadow browsers
- 38 Paddle-wheeler site
- 39 Swedish auto
- 40 Nth deg.
- 41 Fixed the pilot
- 42 — pants
- 43 Feline nine
- 44 Call in sick
- 45 El — (low-cost)
- 48 Spoken
- 52 Wild orchid (hyph.)
- 55 Khan of note
- 56 Staff member
- 57 Field mouse

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/games

- 9 Cordelia's father (2 wds.)
- 10 Grimy
- 11 Do Latin homework
- 12 Foretell
- 13 Demeanors
- 22 Treat a sprain
- 23 Al the trumpet player
- 25 Monster-hunter's loch
- 28 Tupelo phenom
- 29 Bump into
- 30 A little in Lyon
- 31 Pea-green boat passenger
- 32 Arm the alarm
- 33 Digestive juice
- 34 Skip stones
- 35 Maize unit
- 36 "Most Wanted" org.
- 38 Went around
- 39 Garage event
- 41 Dangerous currents
- 42 Fruitcake fruits
- 43 Hens
- 44 Absorbed, as costs
- 45 Play the cymbals
- 46 Duvalier's domain
- 47 A funny Murphy
- 48 Philadelphia sch.
- 49 Math term
- 50 Spit out
- 51 Ventures
- 53 Minute amount
- 54 Break ground
- 59 Go one better

- 58 Aquatic mammal
- 60 Mix it up
- 61 Thames school
- 62 Sleep disturber
- 63 Rushes off
- 64 Helen Reddy's "Delta —"
- 65 Tough situations

Down

- 1 Shish —
- 2 Cremona violin-maker
- 3 "Nancy" rich kid
- 4 Sault — Marie
- 5 Home wrecker?
- 6 Minstrels
- 7 — Bator
- 8 103 to Pliny

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easy

		9			7		2	
	3	5	9			8		6
			2	8		3		
1	4	6					9	
	5					2	1	8
		4		7	1			
6		8			5	7	4	
	9		8			6		

hard

1			5	2				8
			4				1	
6		8				4		
		3	2		8		6	
	1		6		4		7	
	6		9		7	5		
		7				2		6
	4				2			
2				4	3			1

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Aries Get into the game by making improvements that will update your look and add to your qualifications. Pushing your way to the top will take both talent and presentation skills.



Taurus You'll discover a rich lode of information if you talk to someone who has experienced something you want to pursue firsthand. If you listen and learn, advancement will be yours.



Gemini Show your stuff, but don't make promises you cannot keep. Put your best foot forward and make a point to praise others who work as hard as you do.



Cancer Keep your secrets to yourself. Focus on what you can do to help others. A couple of thoughtful changes at home will improve a personal relationship.



Leo Your playful mood and actions will attract some people and repel others. Pick and choose who is best suited for collaboration before you embark on a new project.



Virgo Mix business with pleasure in order to get a much better sense of how you can find success. You can make a financial or residential move that improves your standard of living.

Yesterday's answers

CAMEL	FACE	BOOK
AROMA	IGOR	EDIE
SLOTS	QUARRYING	
EOS	SQUAT	HONKS
NOTE	EON	
LADIES	PLUNDERS	
OMENS	THERE	VEE
GONE	FRITO	HIVE
ICI	MAULS	SATED
COMPOSES	ANNALS	
ONT	TAPE	
APPLE	TIARA	TAE
JELLYFISH	KNOCK	
ALEE	IDEE	ERTIE
READ	EYED	DEEDS

Can't wait until tomorrow to check your answers? Visit metro.us



Libra Keep your thoughts to yourself if you want to avoid a debate with someone who will never see things your way. Nurture a relationship with a loved one. Take time for pampering.



Scorpio The more you do for others, the more you will get in return. You can make a difference if you bring about change to the way you live or act.



Sagittarius Focus on getting things done, instead of finding new things to do. You'll face emotional trouble if you evade issues or neglect to fulfill a promise. Offer love, not complaints.



Capricorn Believe in yourself and your ability to make things happen. What anyone else does doesn't matter, as long as you are happy with the results you get.



Aquarius Show your strengths and stand up and be counted, but know when to back down and keep the peace. It's your ability to weigh your options that will lead to your success.



Pisces Don't allow indecisiveness to be your downfall. Look at the possibilities, but be realistic regarding how much you can actually accomplish. EUGENIA LAST

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Hexagon Word



Clues:

1. Untenanted
2. Hypnotic state
3. Eighth month
4. Spray
5. Opens
6. Recent

Use the clues to fill in the spaces in the numbered hexagons. Each answer runs clockwise but can start anywhere in the shape. Where hexagons touch, they have the same letter. We've given you the first answer. The letters in the middle hexagon reveal a mystery keyword.

Mix 'n' Match

TOO	LHA	TEE
EXC	ANC	TED
FIN	MIT	ION
FOO	THA	ING
OBJ	ICI	IVE
PDC	ECT	IES
ROY	KET	IER
SOL	ESS	RDY
COM	ALT	CHE

© Lovette Puzzles

Clues:

1. Banker
2. Decision-making group
3. Dental pain
4. Sought by petition
5. Expression of opposition
6. Keeping dishonestly
7. Immoderate
8. Author's earnings

Take a set of letters from each column and combine them to form a nine-letter answer to each clue. Once finished, the remaining sets of letters will spell out another nine-letter word. This is your answer.



President Obama delivers his final State of the Union

In a surprising emotional endorsement of anti-science climate change denial, President Barack Obama avoided a frame of passing parliament in favor of big ideas at his final State of the Union speech.



Alabama chief justice: No gay marriage in my state

Judges who follow his order risk being held in contempt of court for violating the federal ruling.



Texas 'affluenza' teen taken into custody in Mexico

Ethan Couch became known as the 'affluenza' teen during his trial in juvenile court, where a psychologist said he was so wealthy and spoiled he could not tell the difference between right and wrong.



Militiamen occupy wildlife refuge as dispute flares

The armed occupation is part of a decade-old conflict between ranchers and the federal government.



North Korea claims first successful H-bomb test

The move set off alarm bells in Japan and South Korea.



'Trumponomics' could cause a recession: Economists

A new report from Politico has experts explaining the Donald's fiscal plan.



Legendary rock musician David Bowie dies at age 69

A fight has gone out in the world.



Wrong contestant crowned Miss Universe by host

Yes, this is real. Yes, it is so very hard to watch.

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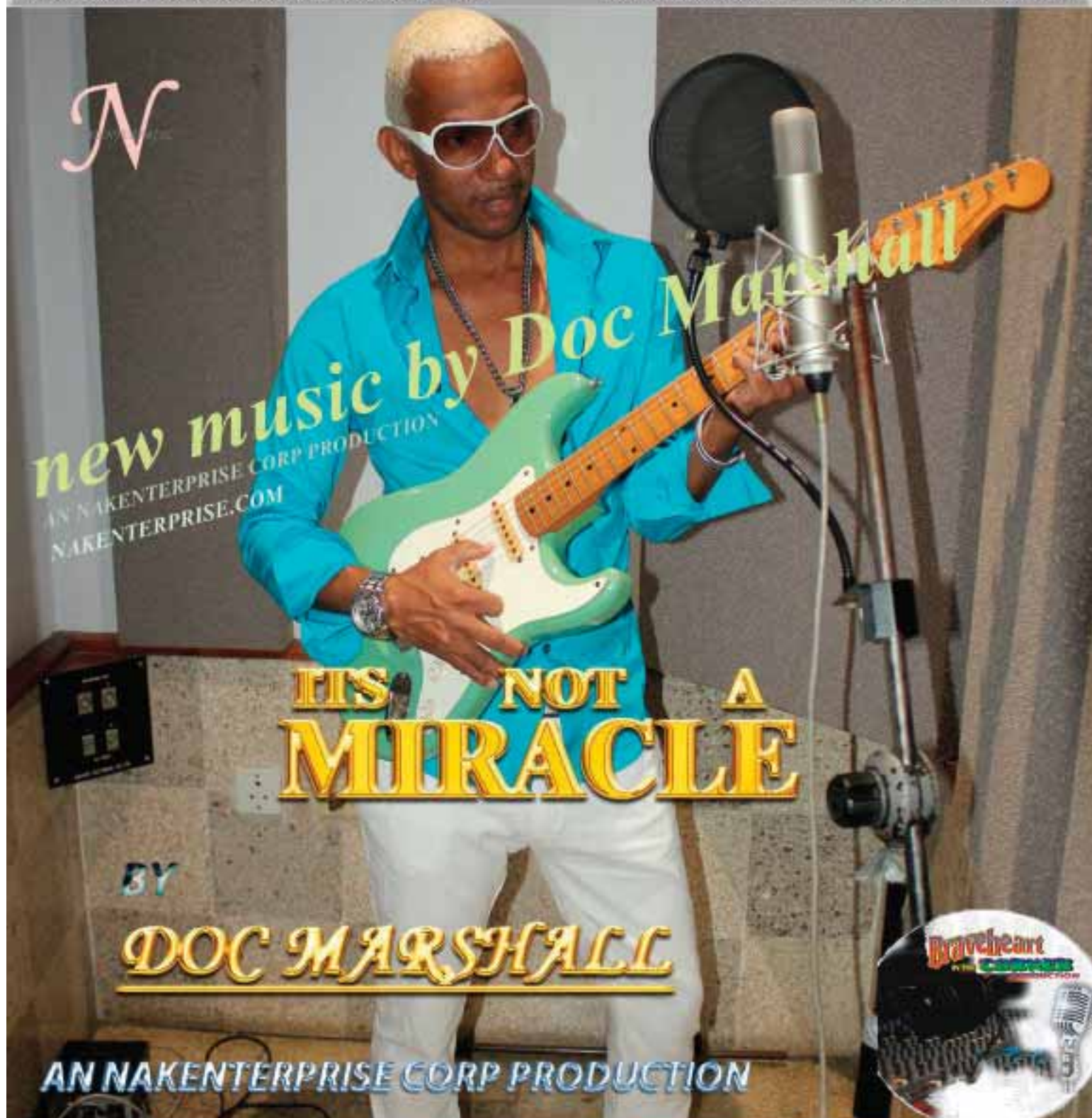
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